

Boatyard General Permit

Response to Monitoring Values Which Exceed Benchmarks

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Should I use pen or pencil to fill out my Level One Response?

A: A pen should be used when filling out any form sent to Ecology.

Q: What is a Level One Response?

A: A Level One Response is a report that must be sent with your Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) when a sampling parameter is exceeded.

Q: What must I do to complete a Level One Response?

A: A Level One Response has five steps. These steps are:

1. Conduct an inspection of the permitted facility as promptly as possible after the sample results are available.
2. Identify and evaluate possible source(s) of the benchmark parameter in the stormwater discharge.
3. Identify source/operational control methods by which stormwater contamination can be reduced.
4. Summarize the inspection results, including remedial actions taken or planned and place them in the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).
5. Send in your completed Level One Response that includes the proposed remedial actions and a schedule for implementing them.

Q: Do I send a Level One Response every time a sampling parameter exceeds the benchmark?

A: Yes, you must send a Level One Response for each month which a sampling parameter or group of parameters is exceeded.

Q: Do I need to send a separate Level One Response for each sampling parameter that is exceeded within that month?

A: No, you can address all the sampling parameters exceeded in the same Level One Response for that month.

Q: When do I have to send in the Level One Response?

A: The Level One Response should be sent in with the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) for the month the sampling parameter(s) are exceeded. The DMR is due by the 15th of the month following the sampling month.

Q: What is a Level Two Response?

A: If you exceed the sampling parameter(s) four (4) times, a more detailed report is required that investigates all available options, including treatment BMPs, to reduce the contamination levels below the benchmark.

Q: What must I do to complete a Level Two Response?

A: A Level Two Response has three (3) steps. These steps are:

1. Investigation of all available options of stormwater **treatment** best management practices to reduce stormwater contaminant levels below permit benchmark values.
2. Evaluate potential **stormwater treatment practices or structures** to reduce stormwater contaminant levels identified in Level One investigations.
3. Send your completed Level Two Response form to Ecology.

Q: When do I have to send in the Level Two Response?

A: The Level Two Response should be sent within three (3) months of exceeding a sampling parameter four (4) times.

Q: What if one sampling parameter is exceeded three (3) times and another is exceeded four (4) times? What Responses do I have to send in?

A: A Level One Response will be required for both parameters and a Level Two Response will be required only for the sampling parameter which exceeded four (4) times.

Q: What if a sampling parameter(s) is exceeded five (5) times? What Responses do I have to send in?

A: For the fifth exceedance of a parameter, a Level One response is required, however, the permittee should be preparing for a Level Three response if the cause of exceedance not clearly identified and corrected.

Q: What happens when a sampling parameter(s) is exceeded six (6) times?

A: In addition to the Level One Response, a Level Three Response will be required.

Q: When do I have to send in the Level Three Response?

A: The Level Three Response should be sent within three (3) months of exceeding a sampling parameter six (6) times.

Q: What must I do to complete a Level Three Response?

A: A Level Three Response has three (3) steps. These steps are:

- 1) Prepare an engineering report that meets the requirements of WAC 173-240, *Submission of Plans and Reports for Construction of Wastewater Facilities*. The report shall include any design and construction information for treatment devices or structures which are to be installed.
- 2) Submit the engineering report to Ecology within three (3) months of initiating a Level Three response. The engineering report shall include an implementation schedule for implementation of the preferred option within twelve (12) months from the time Ecology accepts the engineering report.
- 3) Implementation of the preferred option probably will require a modification of coverage and therefore a new application.